

Columbia College Students Visit Housing Projects



THE COLLEGE GROUP AT GONZALES GARDENS.

Last Wednesday a group of Columbia College sociology students made a tour of inspection of Columbia's three housing developments at the invitation of the Columbia Housing authority. The students were under supervision of Miss Jane McDonald of the Columbia College faculty.

These students have been making a study of housing and their visit to the projects was to get a first hand glimpse of a housing program in action.

The students were met at Columbia College by William R. Geddings, manager of University terrace. At the start of the tour, folders descriptive of Columbia's housing were distributed.

The first part of the tour was given to a visit to an area of bad

housing. After this inspection, the group journeyed to the site of the new Negro project Allen-Benedict court where demolition has just been completed and grading is in progress. There the students and faculty members met W. S. Hendley, chairman of the Columbia Housing authority, and Maj. A. R. Wellwood, executive director, who told them of the plans for Allen-Benedict court, the buildings, employment given in construction and the purpose of the project.

From Allen-Benedict court, the group went to Gonzales Gardens, Columbia's project for 236 white families. Again Mr. Hendley and Major Wellwood explained various features. A moving picture was made of the students inspecting Allen-Benedict court and Gonzales Gardens.

Leaving Gonzales Gardens, the students went to University terrace, Columbia's existing project. After viewing the premises, the group adjourned to the social room where a 20-minute sound movie, "Housing in Our Time," was shown after introductory remarks by Chairman Hendley of the authority and Manager Geddings of University terrace. After witnessing the picture the group returned to Columbia College. In summary, the tour included four different parts, each illustrating a successive step in a housing program as follows: (1) Bad housing; (2) demolition of bad housing for new homes; (3) construction of a housing project; (4) the completed project in operation.

Sgt. B. F. Pruitt and Officer E. C. Wesson of the traffic division of the

Columbia police department co-operated in the tour.